

THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF VENEREAL DISEASES

early cases is regarded as strongly suggestive of an abnormal spinal fluid. The technique of lumbar and cisternal puncture are fully described but would be more complete with a description of the Dättner needle which is now widely used.

A special chapter is devoted to the five-day intensive arsenotherapy of early syphilis in which details are presented of the clinical and serological results of this method as well as the toxic effects. The method of the continuous drip therapy and that of multiple divided injections are described. The incidence of relapses appears to be similar to that following the customary long term treatment. Some of the more grave toxic effects such as encephalitis haemorrhagica and peripheral neuritis appear to have been disturbingly frequent. From the public health aspect Moore considers that intensive arsenotherapy has failed to attain the ideal of regularly, quickly and permanently rendering the patient non-infectious. In fact it appears to offer no advantage over a few standard injections of arsphenamine. The lack of experimental data on this subject is deplored and it is considered that intensive arsenotherapy is still a problem for the laboratory rather than for the clinic.

This volume provides an excellent account of standard American methods of treatment and their results and should find a prominent place in the library of every syphilologist. The work is enhanced by an excellent index and a comprehensive bibliography.

V. E. L.

New Measures for Obtaining Better Control and Prevention of Venereal Diseases. By M. F. Liston, O.B.E., M.B., Ch.B. 36 pp. E. and S. Livingstone. Edinburgh, 1942. Price 3d.

In this small brochure the author propounds her opinion, from clinical observation, that the *Micrococcus catarrhalis* is the primary organism involved in the production of gonorrhoea and meningococcal meningitis. Attention is drawn to the lack of evidence of the formation of toxins from *Spirochaeta pallida* and it is suggested that the bacterial flora in the oro-nasal passages and sinuses plays a considerable if not the major part in the production of the signs and symptoms of syphilis.

In a somewhat rambling style Dr. Liston expresses her dissatisfaction with the results of the existing system of venereal disease control and discusses the necessity for a new outlook in which psychological changes in the patient, the general public and the physician are suggested.

The dissertation is handicapped by prolixity and lack of logical sequence. The frequent and unexpected changes into heavy type, which appear so capricious to the reader, are just as unnecessary as they are irritating.

V. E. L.

Catalogue to Lewis's Medical and Scientific Lending Library, Supplement, 1938-1941. Lewis's Library, London, 1942. 168 pp. Price 4s. net. (to Subscribers 2s. net.).

This useful supplement to the main catalogue of books available in Lewis's lending library is here brought up to date to 1941. The list of medical and scientific books added to the library in the three-year period is both full and comprehensive. The general lists and subject index include all recent publications on venereal diseases, bacteriology and virus diseases.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The Editors beg to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the following Journals, etc.

American Journal of Syphilis, Gonorrhoea and Venereal Diseases
American Journal of the Medical Sciences
British Journal of Dermatology and Syphilis
British Journal of Urology
British Medical Journal
Indian Journal of Venereal Diseases and Dermatology
Indian Medical Gazette
Journal of Experimental Medicine
Medical Times
Medicina Española
New England Journal of Medicine
Prescriber
South African Journal of Medical Sciences
Urologic and Cutaneous Review
Venereal Disease Information